

and is sized, shaped, and positioned with respect to the main opening for permitting the supply line to access the connector 34 when the bladder 22 is positioned in the pocket 26. The secondary opening 52 is sized to permit at least part of the connector 34 or part of the fluid supply line to pass through the secondary opening. The secondary opening may be smaller than the main opening. For example, the secondary opening may be about 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, or more centimeters long. In the illustrated embodiment, the connector 34 is shown extending outside the pocket through the secondary opening 52. Alternatively, the connector 34 may remain inside the pocket 26, and the supply line may be inserted in the pocket through the secondary opening 52. As will become apparent, such an arrangement would shield the connector 34 inside the sealable pocket 26.

[0027] As viewed in FIG. 1, the main opening 50 is provided at the upper end of the pocket 26, and the secondary opening 52 is provided at the middle of the left side of the pocket. The openings 50, 52 may have other positions without departing from the scope of the present invention. For example, the main opening 50 may be provided at the upper or lower end or the left or right side of the pocket 26. The main opening 50 is shown as being generally linear and extending across about the full length of the upper end of the pocket 26, but main openings may have other shapes and lengths without departing from the scope of the present invention. For example, the main opening 50 may extend across the upper end of the pocket 26 and partially down along one or both sides of the pocket. Moreover, the secondary opening 52 may be provided at the upper or lower end or at an upper, intermediate, or lower position along the left or right side of the pocket 26. The secondary opening 52 may be positioned to conform to relative connector locations on conventional bladders or bladders designed particularly for use with the wrap. The secondary opening 52 may be positioned so the fluid connection between the connector 34 and the fluid supply line is oriented or positioned in a desired orientation or position when the wrap is worn, such as near the front or side of the limb.

[0028] The pocket 26 may be formed in a variety of ways. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 4, the pocket 26 may be formed by securing a cover (or outer layer) 20c to a main body (or inner layer) 20d of the wrap. The cover 20c is positioned to overlie the main body 20d and bonded to the main body in face-to-face relationship. Techniques such as described above with respect to the bladder 22 may be used to bond the cover 20c to the main body 20d. The cover 20c is bonded to the main body 20d around a perimeter or boundary 20c' of the cover to define an outer perimeter of the pocket. In some embodiments, the bond defining the outer perimeter of the pocket may be formed inboard from the perimeter of the cover 20c'. In other words, the cover 20c may have a size and shape generally different than the outer perimeter of the pocket. In the illustrated embodiment, the main and primary openings 50, 52 are located between the cover 20c and the main body 20d at segments where the cover and main body are not bonded. Other pocket configurations may be used without departing from the scope of some embodiments of the present invention. For example, a pocket may be formed between layers of the main body.

[0029] The pocket 26 is desirably constructed to shield the bladder 22 from bodily fluids and other potential sources of contamination. In other words, the pocket 26 encapsulates the bladder 22 to prevent external fluids from contacting the

bladder. The pocket 26 may be formed from fluid-impermeable material to shield the bladder. For example, the cover 20c and main body 20d of the wrap 20 may comprise a fluid-impermeable non-woven material such as a PVA/polyester laminate. In addition, the main and secondary openings 50, 52 are selectively sealable when closed to hold the bladder 22 in position in the pocket 26 and prevent fluid from entering the pocket through the openings. The main and secondary openings 50, 52 may be sealed using adhesive. Various types of adhesives may be used, such as polyacrylate based adhesives (e.g., hot melt and solvent types) and polyolefin based adhesives. The adhesive may be applied by spraying, by extruding, or by applying an adhesive film adhesive. In some embodiments, adhesive may be provided on the wrap 20 adjacent the openings 50, 52 and covered with film strips 60a, 60b as shown in FIG. 4. The film strips 60a, 60b are selectively removable from the adhesive to expose the adhesive, and the openings 50, 52 are sealed by pressing the openings closed to adhere the cover 20c to the main body 20d at the openings. In some embodiments, the main opening 50 is completely sealable to prevent fluid from entering the main opening. In some embodiments, the secondary opening 52 is also desirably sealable around the connector 34 or the fluid line in communication with the connector. Thus, fluid from the fluid source may flow through the connector 34 into the hollow interior 30 via the fluid conduits 34a, 34b, 34c, but other fluid outside the conduits such as spilled beverage or bodily fluid is prevented from entering the pocket 26 through the sealed secondary opening 52. In the illustrated embodiment, the film-covered adhesive 60a, 60b adjacent both openings is provided on the main body of the wrap 20d. Alternatively, the adhesive may be positioned on the cover 20c or not provided on the wrap 20. Other methods of sealing the main and secondary openings 50, 52 may be used without departing from the scope of the present invention.

[0030] To use the compression garment 10, a health care provider administers compression therapy to a body part by selecting a wrap and bladder configured for the desired type of compression therapy. For example, the bladder 22 is inserted in the pocket 26 of the wrap 20 through the main opening 50. The connector 34 is accessible through the secondary opening 52 for connecting the connector in fluid communication with a fluid source for inflating the hollow interior 30 (e.g., one or more of the chambers 30a, 30b, 30c). For example, the fluid line from the fluid supply may be inserted through the secondary opening 52 and connected to the connector 34. The main and secondary openings 50, 52 are closed and sealed to shield the bladder 22 from bodily fluid by removing the film strips 60a, 60b to expose the adhesive provided on the wrap 20 adjacent the openings. The compression garment 10 is applied to the selected body part of the patient. For example, the garment 10 may be wrapped around a limb to be treated and fastened in place using a conventional method. Fluid pressure in the hollow interior 30 is increased to exert a compressive force on the body part. At the end of the compression therapy, the bladder 22 may be removed from the pocket 26 through the main opening 50 by releasing the adhesive seal.

[0031] The sealed configuration of the pocket 26 shields the bladder 22 from bodily fluids and/or other potential contaminants sufficiently that the bladder 22 may be reused in another wrap 20 for the same patient or a different patient. Because the bladder 22 is shielded during use, the bladder 22